

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 12, 18 and 19 have been amended to more particularly and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. The Applicants submit that no new subject matter has been added by the amendments herein.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(e)

Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by EP 1 328 080 A1 to Cai, hereinafter referred to as "Cai".

Claim 12, as amended, recites a method for increasing uplink and downlink capacity by using the same time slot and frequency band for the simultaneous uplink and downlink transmissions.

In contrast, Cai teaches a method for improving channel estimation accuracy by synchronizing either the uplink or downlink signals in the wireless communication system (abstract). Cai, either in the portion cited by the Examiner (col. 4, Line 55 – col. 5, Line 4) or elsewhere, does not teach a method whereby a single time slot and frequency handles both the simultaneous transmission of the uplink signal and reception of the downlink signal. Cai speaks to a way of using pilot symbols as a means for improving the channel estimation accuracy (abstract,

col. 2, lines 33-36). Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 12, as amended, is clearly distinguishable from Cai.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 1, 3-5, and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pub. 2003/0031279 A1 to Blount, hereinafter referred to as "Blount", in view of Cai.

Claims 1 and 5, as amended, recite a method and system for increasing cellular system capacity by simultaneously transmitting and receiving uplink and downlink signals. The Examiner states that Blount does not teach receiving and transmitting a signal in a single time slot. Further, Cai does not teach the method of Claim 1 or the system of claim 5, as amended.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 5 and 13 are patentable over Blount in view of Cai. Claims 3 and 4 are dependent upon claim 1, which the Applicant submits are allowable over the cited prior art for the same reasons provided above with regards to claim 1. Claim 13 is dependent upon claim 12, which the Applicant submits is allowable over the cited prior art for the same reasons provided above with regards to claims 1 and 5.

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Claims 5 and 7-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,691,978 to Kenworthy, hereinafter referred to as "Kenworthy", in view of Cai.

As previously stated, claim 5 recites a system for increasing cellular system capacity by simultaneously transmitting and receiving uplink and downlink signals. For the reasons stated above, Cai does not teach the system of claim 5, as amended. Additionally, the Examiner states that Kenworthy does not teach the receiver receiving a signal and transmitter transmitting a signal in the same time slot and the same frequency band.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 5 is patentable over Kenworthy in view of Cai. Claims 7-11 are dependent upon claim 5, which the Applicant submits are allowable over the cited prior art for the same reasons provided above with regard to claim 5.

Claims 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,556,845 to Ide, hereinafter referred to as "Ide", in view of Cai.

With respect to claims 18 and 19, for the reasons stated above, Cai fails to teach the step of simultaneously transmitting and receiving uplink and downlink signals by one mobile unit or base station either alone or in coordination with at least a second mobile unit or base station. Additionally, the Examiner states that

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Ide does not teach using a single time slot while a mobile unit in a neighboring cell also uses the same time slot.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 18 and 19 are patentable over Ide in view of Cai. Claim 20 is dependent upon claim 19, which the Applicant submits is allowable over the cited prior art for the same reasons provided above with regards to claim 19.

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CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application, including claims 1-20, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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